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AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST AND ONLY INDEPENDENT SOCCER NEWSPAPER

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Red Tulip

CONTINENTAL
CHOCOLATES

BUSY YEAR AHEAD FOR SYDNEY PLAYERS, FANS

The 12th season under the auspices of the New South Wales Federation is about to begin.

The curtain-raiser will be this week's friendly between the visiting Dallas Tornado and a Sydney XI.

Then, next week, proceedings will start in earnest when the traditional pre-season Ampol Cup kicks off.

Interstate matches

The year may be one of the busiest and most exciting for Sydney clubs, players — and spectators.

On the home front we may witness the most evenly balanced competition on record.

Some half a dozen teams have the potential to win the championship and some of the other fringe benefits.

After an unhappy break

in interstate matches, NSW will meet Victoria twice early this year — once in Melbourne and once in Sydney.

These may turn into "grudge matches" as argument over the last few years has only intensified as to the leading soccer State in Australia.

An interstate carnival — the first since 1960 when Victoria finished ahead of NSW, Queensland and South Australia in a three-day series in Melbourne — is also under consideration.

A new-look Australia Cup, to be played under floodlights midweek throughout the winter, is very much on the cards.

The chances are that Sydney fans will see in July

the crack Hungarian team Ferencvaros which has just knocked out Liverpool from the European Fair Cities' Cup.

But apart from this ASF-sponsored tour, the NSW Federation is also toying with the idea of inviting some other overseas teams here.

One of these may be the full Japan side which could draw very large crowds — and publicity.

Asian tours

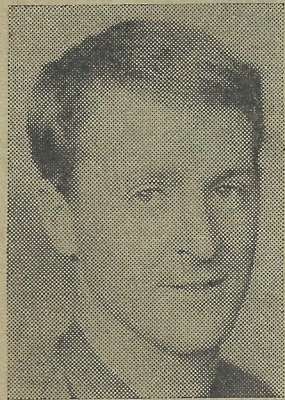
Later in the year, the Australian team is likely to have some World Cup qualifying round commitments, possibly at home and overseas.

And finally, the Aussie team is almost certain to make yet another Asian trip either to the Merdeka or the Saigon tourney — perhaps to both.

Our juniors and under-23s will also be catered for and more international fixtures like last year's Triangular Tournament in New Caledonia are being planned.

All this means that Sydney players will have many goals to strive for: among them, to play for NSW and Australia.

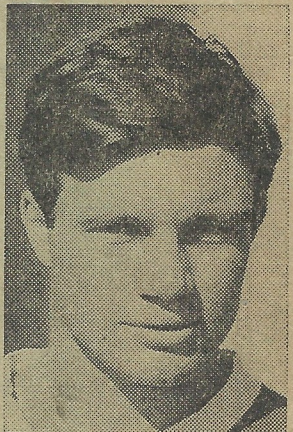
But the greatest beneficiaries may be the spectators who, if all goes well, will not only see an exciting, close-fought season, but also some fine interstate and international clashes.



GILES (Croatia)



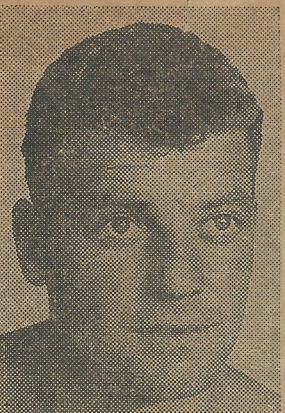
RAEBURN (C'bury)



J. ALAGICH (Yugal)



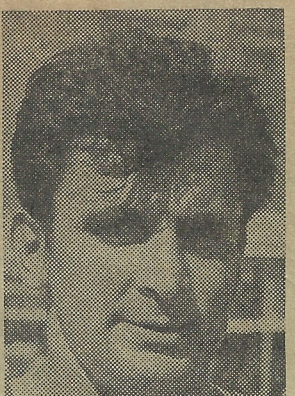
GIACOMETTI (APIA)



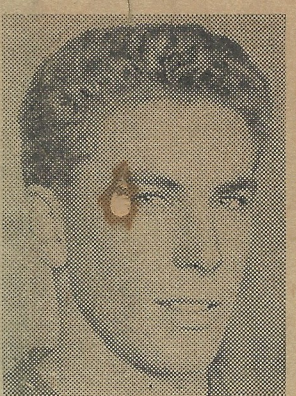
CLISS (St. George)



MANUEL (Prague)



CILIA (Melita)



BAKER (Polonia)



SMITH (Pan Hellenic)



MARNOCH (Hakoah)

TEXAN TEAM TO BRING NEW COLOR TO SYDNEY

Nearing the end of their 25,000-mile soccer safari, the colorful American Dallas Tornado team will launch the NSW season when they meet a Sydney XI at the Showground on Friday night.

The Texas-based team represents an entirely new concept in soccer.

They have an owner — not a mere president — in oil magnate Lamar Hunt; they have 16 players of whom only one is American-born; they are fully professional; and finally, they are using their current world trip through dozens of countries merely to "prepare for the 1968 American season".

According to reliable estimates, it will cost some \$500,000 to weld this team together from its cosmopolitan components.

Lamar Hunt believes that soccer will become big business in America — so he doesn't mind investing this "small sum" in his team.

One of the many amazing features about this team is

the fact that only the sole American-born player has ever been to the USA.

The others were recruited in Europe, assembled and tested in Spain, then taken on this mammoth trip through Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Australia and later the Pacific.

FLAMBOYANT

The big way in which this team is being financed and prepared no doubt staggers the Australian soccer public, not used to Texan methods.

But the Dallas Tornado is only another incredible manifestation of flamboyant Texas where everything has to be big and new and expensive to count for anything.

It would be foolish to expect this Tornado to sweep us off our feet; they may be

a tornado only in name and only a slight breeze on the field.

But they are certainly a refreshing breeze, representing a totally new approach to professional soccer in which vast sums are invested in the hope of later attracting a following and so recouping the outlay.

The team's record on this world tour has been anything but glorious; so far of about 30 matches they have only won seven.

Their main purpose is to "train while you play" and get ready for the season.

After Australia, they will visit New Zealand, New Caledonia, Fiji and Tahiti for more games.

Many of the Dallas players are former European First

Division men, a few with an impressive background. (See pen portraits on page 4.)

However, even so early in the season, they are likely to find the Sydney XI more than a mouthful.

ENTERTAINING

Unless the Sydney players run out of steam because of their suspect early condition, they should hand out the visitors a fairly convincing beating in what may turn out to be an entertaining match.

The likely Sydney XI: Corry; Johnston (or Lincoln), Ackley; Schaefer, Marnoch, Westwater, Armytage, Cliss, Blue, Baartz, Paterson.

Coach: Joe Venglos.

Tony Boskovic will referee the match.

MARKS FIELD LOST FOR AMPOL CUP?

The Marks Field is unlikely to be available for Ampol Cup night matches this year.

The City Council has agreed to the request of the NSW Amateur Athletic Association who requested full use of the ground for training purposes throughout the summer months at soccer's expense.

Friday night Ampol Cup double-headers will almost certainly be played at the Sydney Showground as in 1965.

The NSW Federation Executive has lodged a strong protest with the City Council for its arbitrary decision.

The Sydney clubs, too, are furious about the switch.

They have approached the Management Committee to seek a reversal of the City Council's decision.

But there is only a slim hope the Marks Field will be available as from next Friday.

TRANSFER MARKET MOVES

	Joined	May join	Left	May leave
A.P.I.A.	NICOLI (Italy) CRINO (Italy) SANTORO (Argentina)	KEDDIE (Cumberland) GAUTO (Prague) TELFER (St. George) SEYMOUR (Polonia) KEITH (Hakoah-Melbourne)	RIVERO (Argentina)	ACKERLEY (?) HUGHES (Hakoah or Melita Eagles) JURISIC (Yugal)
Canterbury		VASSILOPOULOS (return from Greece)		G. HOOD (Hakoah) G. CLARKE (St. George) K. KAUZ (?)
Croatia	DOVE (England)	WRIGHT (Lake Macquarie)	TYRRELL (Ireland) BONHAM (Ireland)	REYNOLDS (?)
Hakoah		PERIN (Juventus SA) D. KEDDIE (Forfar, Scotland) HUGHES (APIA) J. KEDDIE (Cumberland) G. HOOD (Canterbury)	HARDING (England) WALSH (England)	WILSON (?) COLLINS (?)
Manly		T. HOBART (New Guinea) M. DOBBIN (New Guinea)		
Melita Eagles	GOLDIE (Auburn) DE BRUIN (St. George) BLACK (Illawarra Juniors) BROWN (Illawarra Juniors) BRENNAN (Auburn) SMITH (Auburn) G. QUESTED (Auburn) WOLOWSZCYKOW (CHS) WHITEFIELD (England) R. ARRIGHI (Canterbury)	NEMET (Hungaria-Wellington, NZ) WRIGHT (Lake Macquarie) HUGHES (APIA)		MULQUEENEY (SCU)
Pan Hellenic		SAVIDIS (Greece) R. KELLY (Coalstars, Qld.)	DOUNIAS (Greece) MAGLIS (Europe)	
Polonia-N.S.	THEILER (Hellenic, Qld.) URBANIAK (Polonia, SA)		GAWLIK (?) NOWACKI (retired) GAIK (Poland)	ROOT (?) OWERS (?) BELL (?) SEYMOUR (APIA)
Prague	MOLNAR (Inter Bratislava) Dr. BUNJA (coach Inter Bratislava)			GAUTO (APIA) BOND (?) HRNCIR (?) POVEY (?)
South Coast United	RAMAGE (St. George) AKERS (St. George) KELLY (Fleetwood)	MULQUEENEY (Melita Eagles)	SALISBURY (Balgownie)	TOLSON (?) PATERSON (?) BARNETT (?)
St. George-Budapest	HOPKINS (Cumberland) SCHAUMAN (South Africa)	ABONYI (Melbourne-Hungaria) G. CLARKE (Canterbury)	AKERS (SCU) RAMAGE (SCU) ISAAC (Argentina) DE BRUIN (Melita Eagles)	TELFER (APIA)
Yugal		WRIGHT (Lake Macquarie) F. LANG (St. George) JURISIC (APIA) RINGHOFF (Lake Macquarie)	DJUKIC (Canada)	

SYDNEY CLUB PATROL

Melita Eagles may strike a snag with the signing of New Zealand international STEFAN NEMET, who starred for the Kiwis in the Saigon tournament two months ago. Nemet, a Yugoslav-born winger of Hungarian descent, has settled in Sydney and played for the Eagles against APIA last Sunday, but his Wellington club slapped a \$5,000 transfer fee on him.

Saint George-Budapest made a fine impression during their seven-day visit to New Caledonia just before Christmas. Beaten 3-4 by the full New Caledonian national team in their first match at Noumea, they held New Caledonia to a scoreless draw in the return game before beating Vallee du Tir, the island's champion team, 3-2. Noumean newspapers were lavish in their praise and rated St. George the best Australian side to visit New Caledonia. All three matches attracted large crowds, enabling the local organisers to show an unexpected profit from the lightning tour.

Any promising juniors keen to make the grade with YUGAL should report to the training sessions on Monday, Wednesday or Friday at Outer Wentworth Park at 6 p.m.

PAVEL MOLNAR, Prague's new forward from International Bratislava, is the best known Czechoslovakian soccer player ever allowed to play abroad since the end of the war. Molnar, 31, played regularly for Czechoslovakia's "A" team for eight years. He was also a member of the Czechoslovakian squad in both the 1958 and 1962 World Cup finals.

A Basic Skills Coaching Course will be held on February 10, 11, 24 and 25 at Wilson Street Park, St. Marys. Fifty to sixty coaches from the NEPEAN DISTRICTS Association are expected to take part. Present indications are that the Association will field 160 teams — an increase of 23 — this year. Penrith Council has designated a piece of land for use as a major soccer oval by the Nepean Association and Penrith District Soccer Club. The land is at Kingswood.

It was a sad off-season for St. George's long-serving NICK SOKOLOFF. His mother passed away while he was in New Caledonia with St. George. Sokoloff left the team to fly home for the funeral just before Christmas.

Hakoah skipper TREVOR EDWARDS became a father for the fourth time during the off-season when his wife gave birth to a baby girl. The Edwards now have two sons and two daughters.

RICARDO CAMPANA and JOHN WATKISS will be fit to play for APIA in the Ampol Cup. Campana has recovered from a cartilage operation last October and Watkiss has got over the injury which forced him out of every match of the 1967 Asian tour.

The wife of Prague's young fullback, GEOFF HARCMBE, gave birth to a baby daughter during the off-season. Harcombe voluntarily gave up a trip to New Caledonia with the Australian under-23 team to remain with his wife before her confinement.

DENIS PATERSON, who toured Noumea with Australia's under-23 team, married Corrimal girl Diane Richards recently. Paterson has been placed on the transfer list by South Coast, at his own request, but so far there have been no offers.

BANKSTOWN Soccer Club has officially amalgamated with Bankstown Soccer Club Ltd. — the social club — and all home games of the senior club will now be played at the latter's own ground at Stacey Street, Bankstown.

LAURIE DIMECH, editor of the "Maltese Herald", has been appointed an Honorary Vice-President of Melita Eagles.

BARRY SALISBURY of South Coast United has been engaged by Second Division Balgownie to coach the side during the 1968 season.

Several ILLAWARRA teams are expected to be included in an all-age Sunday competition conducted by the Southern NSW Amateur Soccer Association. Teams from Shoalhaven, Bowral and the Illawarra area are eligible to enter. Closing date for nominations is January 30, and further details can be obtained from Secretary Len Bolden, 90 Anne St., Nowra. Phone 2-3469.

MARCONI have engaged a full-time coach for 1968. He is Marcello Svoronich, the former APIA forward, who recently returned from Europe.

Sutherland's brilliant goalkeeper, BOBBY PINES, left the club to live in Western Australia.

KEN HIRON, the former Prague full-back, has been appointed coach of last year's Second Division finalists, Sutherland Shire.

(Lane Cove United have appointed JOCK AIRD as the senior club coach. Contrary to an earlier announcement, Lane Cove's home matches will be played at Pottery Green as the Council's plans to return the oval have been postponed for 12 months. The Council has given permission to the club to use Blackman Park for the training of juniors.

APIA secretary, JOHNNY ANTICO, gets married on January 28.

STAN ACKERLEY and PAT HUGHES are at odds with APIA over terms for a new contract this year. Hugh-



PAT HUGHES

es is almost certain to be transferred and there is a good chance that Acklerley, the Australian national team fullback, may also play for a new club in 1968.

RON HEWITT, the Welsh international inside-forward, has returned from England and will be playing again for Bankstown. His last appearance on the Sydney scene was when Bankstown were still in First Division.

Melita Eagles have engaged ARTHUR SMITH, who formerly coached This-ties, to manage their reserves.

NELSON STIFFLE, one of Bankstown's stalwart forwards for many years, has retired as a player and will devote all his time to coaching the "Towns".

EOAN CUTHBERT, who suffered a fractured leg in his very first match with South Coast, is chafing at the bit to resume playing and will probably play in the "friendly" against Croatia next Sunday at Woonona.

JOE ALAGICH's wife gave birth to a baby daughter, Nicole, on December 7.

JOHN RATTENBURY, Sutherland's right full-back who broke a leg in one of last year's semifinals, will not play this season.

GEORGE STREETER has been appointed secretary of Western Suburbs to relieve some of the work off the shoulders of Gordon Stratford, who remains secretary-manager of the Social Club.

Z. NOWACKI, Polonia-North Side's long-serving defender, has retired and is looking for a coaching appointment.

NSW Federation president Jim Bayuttti, on behalf of the Management Committee and the Sydney soccer public, sent a cable of condolences to Tony Eggleton, Press Secretary to the late Prime Minister, Harold Holt, last month, conveying his deepest sympathy to Mrs. Holt for the loss of her husband.

This is Mr. Eggleton's reply, dated January 5: "I have passed on your words of sympathy to Mrs. Holt, and she has asked me to thank you most sincerely. It was very thoughtful of you and your gesture was much appreciated. It has been of comfort to know that so many people have shared our sadness in the loss of this great Australian".

Anybody interested in learning to be a MASSEUR should ring Prague secretary George Warner at 32-5150. Prague are looking for an assistant-masseur who will be taught all the tricks of the trade by their experienced first team masseur.

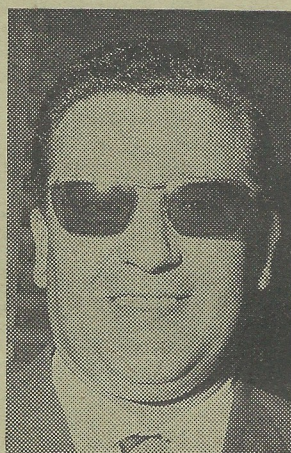
St. George fullback HERBERT STEGBAUER will return from his Austrian holiday early in March. His place in Saints' defence during the Ampol Cup is almost certain to be filled by former Victorian, Barry Taylor, who missed most of last season.

Work is well under way on buildings and the oval itself at the ground of HORNSBY NORTH-END in Pennant Hills Road, Pennant Hills. Depending on the weather, the project should be ready to take Hornsby's first competition match in April.

Croatia expect former NSW junior representative, TONY DOVE, to return to Australia from England in time for the new season. Dove, 21, (a utility forward) originally came here with his parents but became homesick and went to the UK late in 1966. Now, apparently, he's coming back for good.

BLACKTOWN UNITED, relegated last season from Second Division, have amalgamated with Blacktown Spartans — the champion under-16 side in the Nepean Soccer Association. The young players will form the nucleus of Blacktown United in the new season.

CANTERBURY will soon be strengthened by three First Division players from Greece whose names must remain secret until they have signed their contracts.



NSW Federation president JIM BAYUTTTI was one of the NSW delegates at this week's Citizenship Convention in Canberra.

CANTERBURY and PRAGUE will play a trial match, starting at 9 a.m., on Saturday at Arlington Oval.

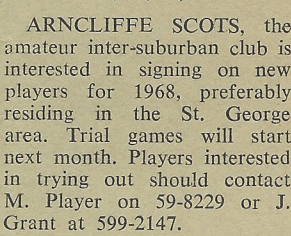
Club stalwart, JACK CURRY, is in full training with Croatia again. He underwent an off-season operation for a nose injury sustained during last year's semifinals.

FRANK CUSH, another Croatia "crock", did not, after all, require a cartilage operation and his injured knee is standing up well to early training.

ARNCLIFFE SCOTS, the amateur inter-suburban club is interested in signing on new players for 1968, preferably residing in the St. George area. Trial games will start next month. Players interested in trying out should contact M. Player on 59-8229 or J. Grant at 599-2147.

ANDREW GAIK, the clever Polonia winger, returns to Poland next month.

TIBOR ZUCKERMAN became a proud father for the first time two weeks ago when his wife gave birth to a son.



STADE FRANCAIS players are requested to ring club secretary W. Charr re training.

GINTER GAWLIK, the Polish international halfback, has applied for the coaching position at Auburn (formerly Cumberland).

Two top junior officials have joined CANTERBURY's Management Committee. They are Reg Gray, the president of the Canterbury Junior Association, and former Association president, Jack Paine.

POLONIA strongly deny there is any strife in the club despite the resignation of top officials, Dr. Rossleigh and Messrs. Rechniewski and Makomaski. The club's only complaint is an anemic looking balance sheet — a problem they share with most Sydney clubs. Polonia have no fears about 1968, are looking forward to a successful season and are confident of finishing much higher up the ladder than last year.

Prague have adopted a LADIES' soccer team which will take the field under their name. Any ladies with some knowledge of the game are invited to contact secretary George Warner (32-5150). Prague are planning a full-scale competition for women including teams from other First Division clubs.

Polonia have signed two interstate players: Hellenic-Brisbane goalie HERMANN THEILER and 20-year-old Polonia-Adelaide forward RICHARD URBANIAK.

SARAVAKOS, the former star Canterbury forward is still serving his three-year Sydney suspension and cannot play in Greece until next year. Saravakos is now working as a baker and is thoroughly unhappy about the suspension which has caused him great marital and financial strife.

JOHN WARREN married Miss Maria Wilson on December 29. The newly-weds returned from a New Zealand honeymoon yesterday. Warren's wedding and honeymoon forced him out of the Sydney XI which plays Dallas Tornados on Friday night. The Australian skipper wasn't the only Saint married during the off-season: Roger Hillary got hitched on December 9.

A Council meeting of the EASTERN SUBURBS Association will be held on Wednesday, January 31, at 8 p.m., at the Randwick Institute. For further inquiries, ring secretary W. Charr at 68-4083.

STADE FRANCAIS players are requested to ring club secretary W. Charr re training.

The NSW Federation is keen to invite FERENC PUSKAS as a guest player for the two matches NSW will play against Ferencvaros in Sydney this winter. Federation president Jim Bayuttti is anxious to invite Puskas to fly out from America, where he will be coaching in 1968, with his wife to be the guests of the NSW Federation during the Ferencvaros tour. Bayuttti is confident that the inclusion of the world-famous former Hungarian and Real Madrid inside-forward in the NSW line-up against his former countrymen will greatly enhance the drawing power of Ferencvaros in Sydney.

YUGAL's Annual General Meeting will be held at their clubrooms, Crown Street, Darlinghurst, at 2 p.m. next Sunday, January 21. On Saturday, January 27, the club will hold a function at their premises to crown the winner of the "Miss Yugal" contest.

Prague's MILES MOULSON and DAVID ZEMAN will miss most of the Ampol Cup. Both are on holidays and will only resume training at the end of the month.

Western Suburbs will use DRUMMOYNE OVAL for all their home matches this season.

Pan Hellenic are confident of signing Queensland's brilliant young goalkeeper, ROSS KELLY, custodian of the national under-23 team which played in New Caledonia last November. Kelly, an Australian who hails from the Coalstars club, is rated even higher than Corry and Romanowicz, Australia's two goalies on tour with the "A" team last year.

ABN Channel 2 is again screening the BSC's "match of the day". Every Thursday night at around 10.20 p.m. highlights of one of England's top matches of the previous Saturday are shown.

GYULA POLGAR has still not been confirmed as Canterbury coach for 1968. The club's reserve grade coach will be in charge of the Berries during the Ampol Cup.

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AMATEURS SET FINE EXAMPLE

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

Last month's Annual Meeting of the NSW Amateur Football Association at Sydney's Chevron Hotel provided one of the most heartening examples of soccer's development that one could wish to see.

The Orient Room provided a fitting atmosphere for the gathering.

President Bruce Pleasant set the pace for the packed meeting to concentrate its efforts on the problems at hand.

Views on all topics varied, but there was always an earnest attitude directed towards the betterment of football.

Vivian Chalwin, an Association patron, conveyed his good wishes for 1968 progress.

Jim Bayutti, Federation president, firmly emphasised the growing bond between the Federation and the Amateurs.

His keynote was that, with the expertise now available in soccer, increasing harmony, and the leadership that the Federation intended to provide, the code can prove to the public that the Vietnam Tournament success, the Manchester United tour, and the standard of the 1967 Premiership Grand Final were but a foretaste of what soccer will be providing in future years.

Bayutti was able to assure the meeting of the Federation's practical help in overcoming some of the financial strains imposed by the amateurs switching over to the State-wide branch system of operation.

"Soccer World" editor Paul Dean gave the meeting a guide to how the paper could be geared to give the Associations the up-to-the-minute cover they were seeking in increasing measure.

The most remarkable feature of the meeting centred around the country personalities present.

Delegates from the Far South Coast (Bateman's Bay to Eden and Bombala) rubbed shoulders and exchanged ideas with others from Armidale, and a dozen other far-flung centres.

Northern Tablelands

Howard Wheaton, the Northern NSW president, could point with pride to almost 1,000 juniors in Armidale's nine clubs and the clubs in towns such as Guyra, Uralla and Walcha.

Under-8 to under-16 grades are conducted, with hopes of extension to under-18 this year.

Senior clubs have their own separate league.

If your inclination is to say "so what," then please reflect that not many years ago soccer was almost non-existent on the Northern Tablelands.

Soccer's third year on the Far South Coast was a thriving one.

Senior clubs in the area are Moruya/Batemans Bay, Bega, Eden, Merimbula and Bombala, and Narooma is expected to come in this year.

Players of proved ability in Sydney such as Mick Bell, George Edmonds and Bernie Morgan are now playing senior football in Tamworth.

The city has 45 junior teams backing up its five senior clubs.

Tamworth's standard increase is due to the influx of players resulting from employment transfers.

No such gain is experienced at Gunnedah, yet seven senior clubs and 15 junior teams are fielded.

Gunnedah president Geoff Morgan is proud of junior wins over touring Bankstown Thistle and Wallsend junior teams.

This Association would send its representatives anywhere in the State for the chance of pulling off a State title.

Drawback

The City of Blue Mountains Association is trying to have the position of Springwood club clarified.

The Association is not large, and needs Springwood to join with Hazelbrook, Katoomba, Leura and Blackheath to guarantee sound competitions.

Springwood last year played in the Nepean Association, which has 139 teams.

The infrequency of trains is a drawback, and availability of parents with cars would give more flexibility in travel and save much waste time.

Amateur secretary David Childs expects that the new State branch system will show its advantages this year.

Childs' new address is 20 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere, 'phone 638-1448.

Ku-ring-gai meets

Ku-ring-gai district is trying to come to grips with the problems which so far have prevented the district from making any impact in senior football.

A public meeting has been convened for Wednesday, January 24, at the Hornsby Memorial Hall at 8 p.m.

Main topic for discussion will be Ku-ring-gai's participation in the Inter-Suburban League, and the under-14, 15 and 16 District Representative Leagues.

Ku-ring-gai has excelled at introducing youngsters to soccer, and encouraging results have started to flow in representative competition against all-comers.

There has been a big wastage of players amongst the 3,500 juniors in the district boundaries, due to lack of a district club to which its players can graduate.

Ku-ring-gai treasurer, Walter de Ste Croix, also a qualified coach, is urging a new attitude towards the senior amateur club and representative football from all juniors.

Players, officials, parents and supporters are invited to the meeting, and also to contact Mr. D. M. Allen on 44-4717.

With new secretary Austin Sheath at the helm, administration has improved.

This year should see a real build-up in referees, overcoming another Ku-ring-gai bugbear.

If next Wednesday proves a success, football throughout the district could be revitalised and given a greater sense of purpose.

Many youngsters in visiting U.S. team

These are the members of the visiting Dallas Tornado team:

Chris J. BACHOFNER, forward, born Amsterdam, Holland. Good playmaker and equally adept with either foot. Has good, tough aggressive style.

Jan BOOK, forward, born Huskvarna, Sweden. An avid sportsman, Jan also enjoys table tennis, tennis and ice hockey.

William "Billy" CROSBIE, born Liverpool, England.

Hans Petter ENGER, goalkeeper, born Oslo, Norway.

Anders FAGRI, centre-forward, born Oslo, Norway.

Edward HALL, fullback, born Liverpool, England. Member of Cheshire's Cup Finals team in 1966, Ed also is an outstanding cricket player.

Brian HARVEY, half, born Liverpool, England. English Youth Cup finalist in 1964.

Pete LARSEN, forward, born Tromse, Norway. Shoots exceptionally well with either foot.

Odd Ivar LINDBERG, goalkeeper, born Oslo, Norway. Played for Norway's national junior team in 1966.

David MOORCROFT, half, born Liverpool, England. An outstanding defensive player, but also shoots well with either foot.

John Patrick MOORE, forward, born St. Louis, USA. Native American, member of United States Collegiate Champion teams. Captain of St. Louis All-Stars against Glasgow Celtic and Dundee. Member of United States Olympic team. Graduate of St. Louis University.

Frank RANDORF, fullback, born Copenhagen, Denmark. Started playing soccer at the age of eight.

Michael L. RENSCHAW, forward, born Manchester, England. Top ball control man, Mike began his football career with Blackpool in 1963.

Robert ROACH, forward, born Liverpool, England.

John STEWART, fullback, born Liverpool, England. Aggressive, hard tackler and fast.

Graham STIRLAND, forward, born Liverpool, England.

Alfons STOFFELS, forward, born Amsterdam, Holland. Played for Amsterdam's Youth team in 1963.

Chris TONNING, centre-forward, born Halmstad, Sweden. Member of the Swedish Junior Cup Championship team in 1964.

Tom WEINHOLDT, half, born Oslo, Norway.

Head coach and manager — Bob KAP, 44. A former professional player and coach in Yugoslavia, Kap is a graduate of the Budapest College of Physical Education (the famous Hungarian coaching school) as well as the author of five books and several hundred articles on soccer.

Dates for two Cups

These are the dates for the quarterfinals of both European Cups:

CHAMPIONS' CUP

Eintracht Braunschweig v. Juventus — January 31, February 28.

Real Madrid v. Sparta Prague — March 6, March 20.

Manchester United v. Gornik Zabrze — February 28, March 13.

Vasas Budapest v. Benfica — March 6, March 14.

CUPWINNERS' CUP

Hamburger SV v. Olympique Lyon — February 21, March 20.

Standard Liege v. AC Milan — February 28, March 13.

Valencia v. Bayern Munich — January 31, March 13.

Cardiff City v. Torpedo Moscow — February 28, March 19.

The first leg will be played on the ground of the team whose name comes first.

The semifinal draw for both Cups will be made in Zurich, Switzerland, on March 22.

STOP PRESS

The draw for the European Championship quarterfinals made in Paris on Tuesday: USSR v. Hungary; France v. Yugoslavia; Bulgaria v. Italy; England or Scotland v. Spain.

FRIDAY START OF AMPOL CUP

The Ampol Cup kicks off next week with first round double-headers at the Showground on Friday night, January 26, and Wentworth Park on Sunday, January 28.

As in the past two seasons, the 12 First Division teams will be divided into two groups, which are:

Group "A": APIA, Manly, Canterbury, Prague, Croatia, Melita Eagles.

Group "B": Pan Hellenic, South Coast, Hakoah, Polonia, St. George, Yugal.

The unique score system — 12 points for a win, five for a draw and nil for a loss, and one "bonus" point for each goal scored — will again apply.

The leading two teams at the conclusion of the round-robin competition will qualify for the semifinals, to be played under floodlights at the Showground, on Friday, March 15.

The final will be played two days later, on Sunday, March 17, at Wentworth Park.

The Ampol Cup this year, however, won't end with the Sydney final.

On March 22 and March 24 the Sydney and Melbourne cup winners will meet in a two-legged "home and away" series for a special interstate challenge cup.

The full Ampol Cup draw:

Fri., Jan. 26 (Showground): 7.30 p.m. Prague v. Croatia; 8.55 p.m. APIA v. Melita Eagles.

Sun., Jan. 28 (Went. Pk.): 2.15 p.m. Polonia v. St. George; 3.35 p.m. Pan Hellenic v. Yugal.

Fri., Feb. 2 (Showground): 7.30 p.m. Pan Hellenic v. Polonia; 8.55 p.m. South Coast v. Hakoah.

Sun., Feb. 4 (Went. Pk.): 2.15 p.m. Manly v. Canterbury; 3.35 p.m. APIA v. Prague.

Fri., Feb. 9 (Showground): 7.30 p.m. Manly v. Melita Eagles; 8.55 p.m. Canterbury v. Croatia.

Sun., Feb. 11 (Went. Pk.): 2.15 p.m. South Coast v. Yugal; 3.35 p.m. Hakoah v. St. George.

Fri., Feb. 16 (Showground): 7.30 p.m. Polonia v. Yugal; 8.55 p.m. Pan Hellenic v. South Coast.

Sun., Feb. 18 (Went. Pk.): 2.15 p.m. APIA v. Manly; 3.35 p.m. Prague v. Melita Eagles.

Fri., Feb. 23 (Showground): 7.30 p.m. Croatia v. Melita Eagles; 8.55 p.m. APIA v. Canterbury.

Sun., Feb. 25 (Went. Pk.): 2.15 p.m. St. George v. Yugal; 3.35 p.m. Pan Hellenic v. Hakoah.

Fri., March 1 (Showground): 7.30 p.m. South Coast v. St. George; 8.55 p.m. Hakoah v. Polonia.

Sun., March 3 (Went. Pk.): 2.15 p.m. Canterbury v. Prague; 3.35 p.m. Manly v. Croatia.

Fri., March 8 (Showground): 7.30 p.m. Manly v. Prague; 8.55 p.m. APIA v. Croatia.

Sat., March 9 (Went. Pk.): 2.15 p.m. Canterbury v. Melita Eagles; 3.35 p.m. Hakoah v. Yugal.

Sun., March 10 (Went. Pk.): 2.15 p.m. South Coast v. Po-

lonia; 3.55 p.m. Pan Hellenic v. St. George.

Fri., March 15 (Showground): Semifinals.

Sun., March 17 (Went. Pk.): Final.

Fri., March 22 (Showground): Sydney winner v. Melbourne winner (1st leg).

Sun., March 24 (Olympic Pk., Melbourne): Sydney winner v. Melbourne winner (2nd leg).

SYDNEY PROGRAM

THIS WEEKEND

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

TRIAL MATCHES

South Coast v. Croatia — Woonona Oval, 3.30 p.m.
St. George v. Pan Hellenic — Wentworth Park, 2.45 p.m.
APIA v. Hakoah — Wentworth Park, 3.45 p.m.

NEXT WEEKEND

AMPOL CUP

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

Prague v. Croatia — Showground, 7.30 p.m.
Melita Eagles v. APIA — Showground, 8.55 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Polonia-NS v. St. George — Wentworth Park, 2.15 p.m.
Pan Hellenic v. Yugal — Wentworth Park, 3.35 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

FRIDAY NIGHT

SYDNEY SHOWGROUND

8.30 p.m.

Sydney XI v Dallas Tornado

Early game 7.05 p.m.

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WORLD CUP DRAW MADE ON FEB. 1 IN MOROCCO

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Entries for the 1970 World Cup closed on December 31 with 71 countries, including automatic final qualifiers, Mexico, the hosts, and England, the holders nominating for the Jules Rimet Cup.

FIFA's World Cup Organising Committee will meet in Casablanca, Morocco, on February 1 to draw up the preliminary elimination groups.

The following countries have entered the competition:

Africa: Algeria, Camerons, Ethiopia, Ghana, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Sudan, Tunisia, Zambia.

Asia: Israel, Japan, North Korea, South Korea.

Europe: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Cyprus, Denmark, England (automatic qualifier), Finland, France, East Germany, West Germany, Greece, Hungary, Northern Ireland, Eire, Italy, Luxemburg, Holland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Scotland, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, USSR, Wales, Yugoslavia.

North-Central America and

Caribbean: Bermuda, Canada, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico (automatic qualifier), Dutch Antilles, El Salvador, Surinam, Trinidad, USA, Cuba.

Oceania: Australia, New Zealand.

South America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela.

For the 1966 World Cup, 74 national associations had sent their entry, 71 had only been accepted by the Organising Committee, but only 51 took effective part in the preliminary competition after the mass withdrawal of African nations and three Asian drop-outs.

Asia and Africa are practically assured of a berth each in the final 16, North Korea

having proved their worth in England and Africa threatening another mass walk-out unless their demand for automatic inclusion in the finals without a play-off is met.

The limited Asian entry is a surprise, but though numbers may be lacking, the quality is there.

Actually, with the sole exception of Burma, Asia's top teams have entered the World Cup, Israel doing so in the Asian zone for the first time after four unsuccessful attempts in Europe.

KOREAN PROBLEM

Japan, encouraged by the successes of their Olympic team, have entered for the first time since 1954 when South Korea deprived them of the right to play in the final 16 in Switzerland.

The entries of both Koreas will again embarrass FIFA, both countries steadfastly refusing to meet in international competition.

Asia's nominations are of vital concern to Australia because the Organising Committee on February 1 is almost certain to lump New Zealand and us, the Oceanic Confederation entries, in the same group as the Asians.

I have a strong hunch that FIFA will split the Asian and Oceanic entries in two sub-groups.

This way they can get around the huge travelling costs involved and also solve, though perhaps only temporarily, the political tangle of an all-Korean clash.

Don't be surprised if Australia, New Zealand and South Korea are grouped together, while North Korea, Israel and Japan battle it out in the other group.

The winner of each group would then meet in the usual two-legged tie to determine the Mexico finalist.

UNBALANCED

Though the two groups appear unbalanced, the second being by far the stronger, these sub-groupings would solve FIFA's dilemma, provided, of course, Australia does the right thing and eliminates South Korea, otherwise the unsurmountable problem of a South Korea v. North Korea — who should breeze through their group — clash will again have to be faced in the play-off.

It is most regrettable that the Australian Federation will not be represented at Casablanca.

We should have a man on the spot, not so much for the actual draw, but in the thick of the intensive, behind-the-scenes lobbying which invariably precedes the meeting of the World Cup Organising Committee.

NOT REPRESENTED

It would be to Australia's advantage that our voice be heard when the big decisions are made, and also after the groups have been announced.

An ASF official in Casablanca could tie up most of the dates and venues of Australia's elimination matches within a matter of hours instead of again going through the agony and suspense which characterized our 1965 World Cup venture.

FOOTNOTE — The Australian Federation is not planning to send a man to Casablanca. World Cup Organising Committee member H.H. Cavan, of Northern Ireland, will represent Oceania.

The ASF secretariat said this week it hoped Australia and New Zealand would be paired off in an Oceanic group, the winner to meet Asia's elimination round survivor for a berth in Mexico in a two-legged play-off.

JIM KELLY KEEPS COAST GUESSING

— By CHARLES SPITERI —

Jim Kelly's delayed arrival in Australia to coach South Coast United is surrounded by a shroud of secrecy, not because he will be more than four weeks overdue, but because of conflicting reports about his physical condition and availability to serve as a player as well as a coach.

South Coast United officials can neither confirm nor deny a report that Jim Kelly — the former Blackpool star — has not played with his present club, Fleetwood, for nearly 12 months.

Kelly, who coached South Coast from 1961 to 1965, is expected to return to coach the club on February 3.

United are eager to have him as a playing coach to arrest the dwindling home

to himself.

"We will be just as happy to have him as our coach again," he said.

Jim Kelly, 35, has signed a one-year contract with South Coast, with the option of an additional three years.

He will come to Australia alone, and his wife and three children may follow at a later date.

Jim Harris, a former South Coast captain-coach, has confirmed that he will not be playing this year despite Kelly's keenness to see him resume playing for the club.

Harris coached Second Division club Balgownie last season and although, if asked, he may take a coaching job, he is content to call off his playing days at the age of 30.

South Coast badly needs revitalisation and a super effort by someone with the personality and ability of Jim Kelly may be the answer to many of the club's problems.

There is some discontent within the club, which resulted in Max Tolson and Dennis Paterson being placed on the transfer list.

Last season's coach Graham Barnett missed the initial training session with the Coast and he too is expected to be on the transfer list soon.

Barry Salisbury, South Coast United's "Mr. Versatile" has signed as non-playing coach with Balgownie and has already conducted a summer coaching school which was an outstanding success.

Woonona Sportsground — South Coast's home ground — was recently re-turfed and re-grained, and will be in tip-top playing condition when the competition starts.



JIM KELLY
... conflicting reports.

attendances at Woonona, but at this stage are still uncertain as to whether he would play.

Training has already started on the Coast, and pending the arrival of Jim Kelly, the club has appointed Jim Harris as coach.

South Coast United secretary, Trevis Birch, said this week that the club was bringing Kelly back to coach the three teams, but whether Kelly played was entirely up

NSW may invite team for visit

The NSW Federation will consider inviting an overseas team at the end of the season.

NSW will seek permission from the Australian Federation to bring a team, preferably from Asia, after the Sydney Grand Final.

The NSW Federation has made it clear it will only go ahead with plans to sponsor the visit of a foreign side with official ASF blessing, and only if the tour does not interfere with any international plans the national body may envisage.

The feeling among NSW Management Committee members is that NSW can make a success of such a visit by going it alone, just as they did in 1959 with Deportiva Saprissa from Costa Rica.

If NSW's recommendation for a new-look, streamlined Australia Cup, to be played midweek throughout the winter months, is implemented, the end of September and early October will be free to accommodate an overseas team.

European teams would be impossible to secure at that time of the year, but any number of Asian national sides, such as Japan, South Korea or Indonesia would be available.

The NSW Federation is confident that a three or four-match tour by any of the above-mentioned Asian sides in September-October will prove a success.

NSW is prepared to share the costs with other States willing to accommodate the visitors at the completion of the NSW section of the tour.

There is every prospect that if such a tour comes off this year, it will be a joint NSW-Victoria venture, one of the tangible results of the "get-together" between NSW and Victorian officials last month in Melbourne, when it was decided the two States would co-operate more closely in the future.

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WESTERN SUBURBS SOCCER CLUB

Will be holding pre-season trials in January. New players will be welcomed.

Contact Secretary, 18 Bevin Avenue, Fivedock, telephone 83-8672.

COACH

Applications are called for the position of coach for:

AUBURN S.F.C. (Division II)

Applications will close with the Secretary, Mr. B.C. Leonard, 7 Northumberland Road, Auburn, on Monday, January 22, 1968, and should include terms and qualifications.

COACH-TRAINER

Applications are called for the position of Coach and Trainer for

ARNCLIFFE SCOTS SOCCER CLUB.

Interested parties should contact:

M. Player: 59-8229 J. Grant: 599-2147
Applications close on Mon., February 5, 1968, and should include terms and qualifications.



ROUND THE WORLD

European Cup draw

The draw for the quarterfinals of the European Champions' Cup is: Real Madrid v. Sparta Prague, Manchester United v. Gornik Zabrze, Vasas Budapest v. Benfica and Juventus Turin v. Eintracht Braunschweig.

Celtic tops poll

A poll conducted by TASS, the Soviet news wire service, among European and South American soccer editors to find the ten best club teams in the world in 1967 gave the following results: 1 Celtic (Scotland), 2 Manchester United (England), 3 Racing Buenos Aires (Argentina), 4 Santos (Brazil), 5 Botafogo (Brazil), 6 Ferencvaros (Hungary), 7 Inter Milan (Italy), 8 Bayern Munchen (West Germany), 9 Dynamo Kiev (USSR), 10 Real Madrid (Spain).

Ferencvaros knock Liverpool out

Ferencvaros, the Hungarian champions who will tour Australia this winter, knocked Liverpool out of the European Fair Cities' Cup to reach the quarterfinals of the competition they won in 1965. Ferencvaros beat Liverpool 1-0 in England last week after having won the first leg, also 1-0, in Budapest last November. Leeds United, last year's finalists, fared better than their countrymen. They knocked Hibernian (Scotland) out to reach the quarterfinals.

American war is over

The big soccer feud in the United States is over. The two professional leagues have merged into one body which has been recognized by the USFA. The rival leagues resolved their quarrel at a meeting held at FIFA's Zurich headquarters on December 16. A series of meetings this month in America will iron out the numerous problems which still exist. The biggest headache confronting officials is who will foot the staggering bill the "rebels" have run up for poaching scores of foreign players. A decision also has to be made whether the best clubs of both leagues will play in a single competition, or whether the US will conduct two competitions in 1968.

Another "team of the year"

According to IDROTTSBLADET, the influential Swedish sports newspaper, the 1967 "team of the world" was: Banks (England), Marzolini (Argentina), J. Charlton (England), Moore (England), Facchetti (Italy), Beckenbauer (West Germany), Bobby Charlton (England), Johnstone (Scotland), Eusebio (Portugal), Pele (Brazil), Best (N. Ireland).



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2KY ITALIAN MELODIES 2KY
Every Thursday 6.15 p.m.

Tottenham paid a British record transfer fee of £125,000 sterling for Southampton's under-23 English international forward, Martin Chivers. Tottenham gave Southampton a cheque for £75,000 plus forward Saul, worth £50,000, for the brilliant Chivers. Since manager Bill Nicholson took over, Tottenham have spent more than £1 million sterling in transfers.

● Hapoel Tel Aviv, the team Hakoah beat 7-1 in Sydney two and a half years ago, won the first Asian Champions' Cup. The Israelis defeated Sengalore of Malaysia 2-1 in Bangkok on December 18. The series was a big flop. All teams withdrew and the final was the only match played.

● A full-scale riot erupted in Hong Kong last month after Slavia Prague defeated a local XI 4-2. After a stormy match marred by brawls and expulsions, Chinese fans set fire to the terraces, overturned cars and battled with police for an hour. Similar events highlighted Australia's 3-1 win in Hong Kong in December 1965.

● Substitutes will be permitted in Hungary this season. A field player and the goalkeeper can be replaced any time during a match.

● Mario Corso, Inter Milan's brilliant international winger is sought after by Santos. Pele told his club he would like to play next to Corso, one of the best wing men in the world.

● The Hungarian Olympic team defeated Deportivo Saprissa 3-1 in Costa Rica last month. This is the same Central American club beaten 4-2 (twice) and 6-1 by NSW in 1959.

● Anzor Kavazachvili, the Torpedo goalie who toured Australia in 1965, received Russia's supreme sporting accolade: he has been awarded the title of "master of sports".

● Botafogo have won the Rio championship and in Chile the title went to Universidad Chile de Santiago.

● The first two rounds of the European Champions' Cup were watched by 1,543, 289 spectators. Corresponding matches in the Cup-Winners' Cup attracted 903,118 fans.

● Lubanski (Gornik Zabrze) is Poland's Player of the Year. Runner-up is another Gornik star, Oslizlo.

● Santos have won yet another Sao Paulo championship — the club's ninth. Each player received a \$5,000 bonus, except Pele, whose special contract netted him \$11,000 for winning the title.

● There is a good chance that Bulgaria's world-class forward, Asparoukhov, will play for Hajduk Split in Yugoslavia this year. The Bulgarian star is to study at Split's famous Nautical Sciences Academy.

● The El Salvador government refused entry visas to the Hungarian and Russian national teams which were to have played there last month.

● Milutin Soskic, the world-rated Yugoslav goalkeeper, will return to Partizan Belgrade when his contract with FC Koln expires in June.

● Jozsef Bozsik, the great halfback of the Hungarian wonder team of 1948-54 has agreed to coach Yugoslav club Sarajevo, last year's First Division champions.

● Panathinaikos, the ace Greek club which failed to sign up Tom Docherty, are now negotiating with the famous former Yugoslav forward, Bobek. He has been offered \$70,000 to coach the Athens team for two years.

● Edouard Streltsov, Torpedo Moscow's centre-forward, has been named the USSR's "Player of the Year". Streltsov, 30, was jailed between 1958 and 1965 for rape.

● FC Nurnberg, the runaway West German leaders, won't rest on their laurels next season. They have already completed negotiations to sign the German forwards, Helmut Haller and Jurgen Schutz, now operating in Italy.

● Karoly Soos has taken over from Rudolf Illovszky as Hungarian national team coach. Soos managed the East German national team for seven years. Illovszky will restrict his activities to coaching European Cup quarter-finalist, Vasas.

● Gyorgy Honti, 58, secretary of the Hungarian FA, died of a cerebral attack in Budapest a fortnight ago.

● Slavia Prague were undefeated on their 14-match overseas tour. They returned home with 12 wins and two draws (against Victoria and Auckland). In their last two matches they beat Singapore 6-1 and a Combined Indian XI 3-0 at Madras.

● Kilmarnock, the Scottish First Division club, want to undertake an Asian and Australasian tour in May and June. They would like to play three or four matches in Australia, but will only be invited to Australia if the Ferencvaros tour falls through.

● North Korea still haven't played a full international since beating Communist China 2-1 in the final of the GANEFO Games at Phnom-Penh, Cambodia, in November 1966. The Koreans, however, are planning a tour of China later this month.

● Josef Ujlaki, the former Hungarian-born French international forward, may accept a coaching position in the United States. Ujlaki at the moment is coaching an obscure regional French team.

● Boone of Bruges is Belgium's Player of the Year for 1967. Belgium's top player award is called the "Golden Soccer Boot".

UK's transfer inflation

British clubs spent a record \$9,640,000 on the transfer of players during 1967. Players who were transferred for £100,000 sterling or more last year were Jim Baxter, Alan Birchenhall and Mick Jones. Britain's astronomical transfer fees have angered many politicians throughout the country. A Conservative MP has suggested the Government tax transfer fees of more than \$53,000 to curb inflation in British soccer.

South American Champions' Cup

The Brazilian clubs have lifted their embargo on the South American Champions' Cup and will take part in this year's Copa Libertadores, the winner of which will tackle the European Cup winner for the Intercontinental Cup. The following clubs have entered: Independiente Buenos Aires, Estudiantes La Plata (Argentina); Jorge Wilstermann, Always Ready (Bolivia); Palmeiras Sao Paulo, Nautico Recife (Brazil); Deportivo Cali, Millonarios Bogota (Colombia); Universidad Chile, Universidad Catolica (Chile); Nacional Quito, Emelec Guayaquil (Ecuador); Guarani, Libertad (Paraguay); Universitario Lima, Sporting Cristal (Peru); Penarol, Nacional (Uruguay); Deportivo Portuguesa, Deportivo Galicia (Venezuela). Racing Buenos Aires have a bye until the semifinals, which will be played in groups.

Europe's quarterfinalists

The draw for the quarterfinals of the European Cup will be made in Paris this weekend. Seven of the quarterfinalists have already been determined. They are preliminary group winners Hungary, France, Bulgaria, USSR, Yugoslavia, Spain and Italy. The eighth country will be England or Scotland, who meet in a vital game in Glasgow on February 16. If England, who only need to draw to qualify, misses out, the first three of the 1966 World Cup will have been eliminated as Portugal and West Germany were knocked out by Bulgaria and Yugoslavia respectively.

North Korea, Indonesia Mexico-bound

Another two Asian countries will join Japan in the Olympic finals. Japan qualified at South Korea's expense in Tokyo last September but the second Asian finalist will only be known next week and the third in April. Thailand, Indonesia, Iraq, Hong Kong and Pakistan start their qualifying round-robin in Bangkok this week and between March 17 and April 4 Israel, North Korea, Ceylon, India and Burma meet in Israel. Indonesia is favored to win the Bangkok tournament and North Korea, fielding their World Cup side, should be too strong for Israel and Burma, their strongest challengers.

Latins' Olympic battle

South America's Olympic qualifying series will be played in Colombia from March 19 to April 10. The following countries will take part: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Venezuela in Group "A"; Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay in Group "B". The first two in each group will meet in a final pool, also to be played as a round-robin. The winner and the runner-up qualify for Mexico. In the Central American Group, which will supply two finalists, only Costa Rica, Guatemala, Trinidad and El Salvador have entered. Costa Rica and El Salvador are favored.

SCOREBOARD

FRANCE (Cup, first round): Ajaccio v. Rennes 3-2; Red Star v. Reims 0-0; Sochaux v. Bastia 5-1; Nimes v. Marseille 1-0; Toulon v. Aix 1-0; Avignon v. Beziers 2-1; Rouen v. Calais 2-0; Valenciennes v. Granville 1-0; Lyon v. Sete 1-0; Racing Strabourg v. Pierrots Strabourg 1-0; Bordeaux v. Coqs Rouges Bordeaux 4-0; Angers v. St. Brieuc 3-1; Nantes v. Dinan 10-0; Nice v. Villefranche 2-1; Gazelec Ajaccio v. Monaco 2-1; Chaumont v. Amiens 4-2; Malakoff v. Grenoble 3-0; Dijon v. Besancon 2-1; Brest v. Limoges 1-0; Angouleme v. Pau 2-0; Montelimar v. Cannes 2-1; Eyreux v. Aulnoye 1-1; Quevilly v. Henin Lietard 2-0; Moulon v. Laval 2-0; Vannes v. Villenave 1-0; Annecy v. Bourges 3-2; Montlucon v. Arles 2-2.

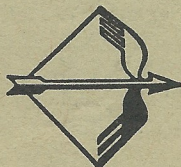
HOLLAND (last week's results, this week's matches postponed because of bad weather): Telstar v. NAC 4-0; DOS v. Ajax 1-1; Feyenoord v. NEC 2-0; Volendam v. Sparta 2-3; DWS v. Xerxes 1-2; Sittardia v. PSV 1-1; MVV v. Twente 1-1. GVAV v. ADO and Go Ahead v. Fortuna were also cancelled weekend January 6-7.

ITALY: Atalanta v. Sampdoria 1-0; Brescia v. Napoli 0-0; Fiorentina v. Vicenza 3-1; Inter Milan v. Cagliari 3-0; Juventus v. Spal 2-0; Mantova v. Bologna 0-0; Roma v. Torino 0-2; Varese v. Milan AC 2-1.

PORTUGAL: Varzim v. Benfica 1-1; Sporting Lisbon v. Belenenses 3-0; Academica v. Leixoes 2-1; Sanjoanense v. Tirsense 1-0; Porto v. Setubal 2-0; CUF v. Braga 1-2; Guimaraes v. Barreirense 3-0.

SPAIN: Malaga v. Las Palmas 2-0; Pontevedra v. Real Sociedad 2-0; Elche v. Atletico Madrid 1-0; Betis v. Valencia 0-2; Cordoba v. Bilbao 2-1; Barcelona v. Zaragoza 4-0.

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Micic to make debut for Hellas on Friday

— From BOB LOW in Melbourne —

Another outstanding Ampol Cup double-header will be played on Friday night at Olympic Park when a crowd of around 10,000 is expected.

At 7.45 p.m. JUST meets Slavia, followed by SM-Hellas v. George Cross at 9.10 p.m.

JUST face a stiff task against Cup holders Slavia, while the clash between Hellas and George Cross, if it measures up to the meetings which have taken place between this pair in former years, should keep the crowd on their toes.

JUST v. Slavia

The loss of Frank Micic to Hellas undoubtedly unbalanced the JUST defence and takes some driving power out of the side.

However, the club management are not duly perturbed by this and are confident they will be a force in both the cup and league competition this season.

They still look reasonably well set in defence where they have players of the calibre of Ruzmir, Rice and Handricks.

And this trio have plenty of experience to form a real back-bone.

Up front, JUST will once again pin their hopes on big Welsh centre forward, Tony Hughes, who stands on no ceremony in grabbing half chances which lead to goals.

The JUST management are banking on big things from Bogdan Zlatic who joined the club late last season with a big reputation in Yugoslavian soccer.

Slavia, with the exception of Sandy Jones who returned home last season, are more or less unchanged and

could even be strengthened by the inclusion of at least one new player.

Solid in defence and especially up the middle where Willem Schroif in goal and Billy Cook at centre half are key-players, the rest of the rearguard adds up to the strongest unit among the State League clubs and seldom has any opposition a joy-day against the reliable and steady Slavia defence.

Running into form, the Slavia attack has plenty of potential although all too often in the past few years they have failed to reveal their best and have been trailing the form and consistency shown by their defence.

It won't be a cake-walk for the Port Melbourne side.

But if they go into an early lead then JUST will have an outside job in getting on level terms again.

And that's why I reckon Slavia will win.

SM Hellas v. George Cross

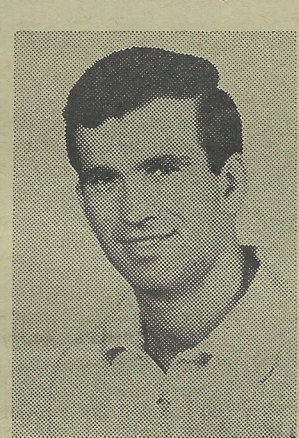
Hellas have a distinct advantage even before the kick-off in their clash with George Cross.

With a fairly stable formation which will include Frank Micic, they show few changes from last season.

On the other hand George Cross are at a transitional stage of rebuilding and may show many changes depending on the availability of newcomers expected.

In defence there's little to choose between the sides.

Both are far from watertight in this department and even the inclusion of Micic for Hellas can hardly be described as a winning move



FRANK MICIC

yet, as he will take some time to settle and become really effective in a team which

employs vastly different tactics and techniques from that of his old club, JUST.

The Greek side have an undoubted pull in attack where they have more than one striker and plenty of pace.

Kokinos could be the real threat to George Cross and it's on the cards that former Pan Hellenic wing half, Johnny Sanchez, may be entrusted with the task of shadowing this promising youngster who shows a flair for quick-time shooting and goal-grabbing.

Irrespective of the superiority of Hellas at this stage, George Cross have never shown any inferiority complex against their opponents in the past when many of their games finished level.

On this occasion, however, the fact that Hellas are much less changed and have the pull in attack favors them to open their account with a victory.

Cup starts with form reversals

The 1968 Ampol Cup got off to a flying start last Friday in Melbourne when the 8,000 fans who turned up were slightly disappointed with the form shown by all the sides, except Hakoah, but were treated to some spectacular goals.

The results proved a turn-up for the books and a reversal of last season's closing form.

Hakoah thrashed Juventus 4-1, while the 1968 State League champions, Melbourne, who also won the Australia Cup, were downed by Croatia 0-2.

HAKOAH EASILY

Unchanged from last season's line-up, Hakoah, with a somewhat rearranged side which omitted giant centre-forward Ian Monan, went into action from the first whistle and had Juventus reeling from the start.

With a fine display of teamwork, by a side which was obviously well trained, they rattled on three goals in 26 minutes and had the points tucked away long before half time.

Armstrong, with a well-taken hat-trick, and Purdie shone in the Hakoah attack while defence-wise the Middle Park side were almost flawless.

Juventus, who lost ace centre-half George Scott, John Milton, Terry Luckhurst, John Bell and Freake Torque, had a weak and unbalanced line-up which included reserve fullbacks Healey and Bonafeni.

Newcomer Tommy McColl from Adelaide had a quiet debut and suffered through lack of proper support in a lop-sided team in which goalkeeper Dieter Voigt had a most unhappy night when he was responsible for at least three of the goals which went past him.

Yards slower than Hakoah, it's obvious Juventus with their sluggish pace need a few more games to reach peak fitness.

Scorers: Armstrong (3), Purdie for Hakoah; Di Marchi for Juventus.

MELBOURNE FLOP

Without Attila Abonyi, who was in Sydney for the ABC "Sportsman of the Year" presentation, and also minus right winger Peter Kurta, who has been suspended by the club for three competition games for playing in unauthorised games, Melbourne showed enforced changes and brought in Ray Pocock, their close-season buy from Sunshine City at centre-forward.

In attack, Melbourne, who were the big noise in Australian soccer in 1967, never hit it off and in this department were struggling for most of the game.

It was just as well for the Australia Cup winners that their defence was in top form.

McGowan had only a few days earlier returned from Scotland, after a three-month trip in which he originally intended to stay back in his native Glasgow.

The first half was quiet and neither Melbourne nor Croatia rose above mediocrity.

However, after half time, Croatia looked much more methodical and dangerous and their two goals were a fitting reward for their superiority in the last period.

The goal by Billy Vojtek was a real gem.

He waltzed past four Melbourne defenders in a brilliant solo burst before planking the ball well out of Surma's reach with a grand parting shot.

Scorers: Glaser and Vojtek for Croatia.

— B.L.

COOK'S TOUR OF MELBOURNE

— By BOB LOW —

George Cross suffered a big disappointment last weekend when their former fullback John McDaid, who has been back in Scotland for the past 18 months, failed to arrive after the club had made all arrangements for his return.

The club have now sent an urgent and personal telegram to McDaid asking him to clarify his position.

Tommy Randles, the Slavia wing-half and captain who has been overseas on a short holiday since before Christmas, was due to arrive back on Tuesday and could be included in their line-up against JUST.

Before coming to Australia less than two years ago to join Slavia, Randles made several first team appearances for Stoke City.

JUST are likely to give an extended run to teenage winger Raymond King, a product of the juniors, who has already appeared on several occasions in the first team over the past two years.

Raymond originally came from Scotland with his parents, but has played almost all his soccer in Australia.

Juventus, badly in need of a boost and replacements for departed players, are likely to have two experienced newcomers from overseas before the league competition gets under way in March.

Jim Armstrong, the Hakoah inside forward who was recently married became the first player of the Ampol Cup tournament to score a hat-trick in 1968.

Armstrong scored two hat-tricks in league soccer in 1967 and in one game went one better by notching four goals.

There's still no sign of a settlement between Croatia and wing-half Duncan McKay whom the club have suspended for alleged breach of contract.

It seems reasonably certain on this occasion that this will be the parting of the ways between club and player and possibilities cannot be discounted that McKay will be target soon for another State League club.

Former JUST utility player, Ambrose Morgan, who joined the club almost three years ago, made a big impression in his first year at centre-forward, then reverted to defence and was out of the team all last season, has returned to Wales.

Morgan played for Newport County, Morton and Toronto (Canada) before coming to Australia.

Watch this quintet in 1968 — Mc Intyre, McMeechan, Vojtek, J. McKay and Glaser.

The current Croatia attack is the most potent in Victorian soccer.

Manny Poulakakis, the former Hakoah (Sydney) coach now with it's sister club in Melbourne, has obviously done a good job with his players during the off season.

Against Juventus, Hakoah looked extremely fit, fast, dedicated and well disciplined.

Pat Reilly, the scoring centre-forward of George Cross who was bought for a "song" from Wilhelmina in mid-1967, has resolved his difficulties with the club after some dispute re signing terms and is rarin' to go in the Ampol Cup.

Not a spectacular player by any means, Reilly nevertheless positions himself well and seldom misses a gilt-edged chance to score.

Originally an inside forward, it seems for the present at least that Connelly's services are more needed up front than in defence.

It seems certain that player-coach Mario Corti of Juventus will in future direct his team's operations from the touchline.

I have been told by a leading Juventus official that Corti, the former Juventus (Adelaide) winghalf who is now 34, will quit the playing side of the game.

Have Hellas a goalkeeping problem!

In a recent friendly fixture they introduced John Bizas, a newcomer from Greece who looked only fair.

Regular goalie in 1967 was Heinz Wenzl, the former Hakoah (Sydney) custodian.

ATTILA BOOKED FOR SYDNEY TRIP

Melbourne HSC star Attila Abonyi is certain to come to Sydney — at least on his honeymoon.

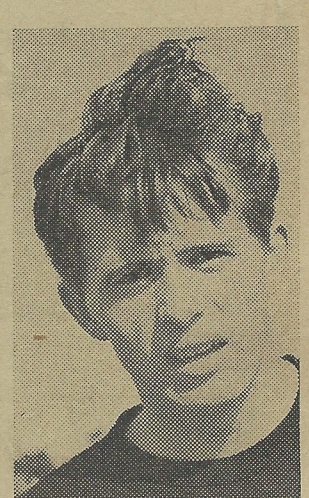
Abonyi gets married on February 24 and next day arrives in Sydney with his bride.

While in Sydney last week for the ABC's "Sportsman of the Year" show at which he was interviewed, Abonyi said he was determined to play for St. George-Budapest this year.

He said he would not even play in the Victorian Ampol Cup.

It seems certain that the Melbourne club will decide about Abonyi's future within a week or two now that vice-president Andy Kun has returned from Europe.

The so-called Victorian transfer "ban" on Australian representative players will not be enforced if the Melbourne club agree to let the player go.



And the transfer fee, despite some wild guesses, is likely to be very reasonable.

The Victorian Ampol Cup now enters its 15th year, and until a few years ago the competition was known as the Sun Cup.

Past competition winners have been:

- 1955: JUST
- 1956: JUST
- 1957: JUST
- 1958: GEORGE CROSS
- 1959: JUVENTUS
- 1960: JUST
- 1961: GEORGE CROSS
- 1962: WILHELMINA
- 1963: POLONIA
- 1964: POLONIA
- 1965: GEORGE CROSS
- 1966: JUST
- 1967: SLAVIA

In the 1967 final, Slavia defeated Melbourne in the replay after the first game ended in a draw.

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TOP EUROPEAN HONORS LISTED

Russia gains first spot among nations

About this time of the year it is all but traditional for large European sporting newspapers to publish various ranking lists.

The majority of these concern soccer and the best known and authoritative is that of "France Football."

Early in January "F.F." published its ranking of European countries on 1967 results and achievements.

This was their ranking:

1. USSR.
2. Hungary and Italy.
4. England.
5. Bulgaria.
6. East and West Germany.
8. Yugoslavia.
9. Czechoslovakia.
10. Spain and Portugal.

Then in order, follows: Scotland, France, Switzerland, Denmark, Rumania, Belgium, Greece, Holland, Poland, Austria, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, Albania, Luxembourg, Finland and Cyprus.

Eire, Iceland, Northern Ireland and Wales had insufficient results to be ranked.

It is more than likely that "France Football's" ranking is as fair and accurate as you can get.

The whole of Europe didn't have one country in 1967 that really stood out.

England suffered a painful home defeat to Scotland while the Russians lost to lowly Austria and Holland.

West Germany were beaten by Rumania and, even more astonishingly, drew with Albania and got eliminated from the European Championships.

The Italians remained unbeaten in 1967 — but played only six matches and all against humble opposition, yet they drew twice. There is no doubt that either the USSR or Hungary should be ranked first.

The Russians played 16 matches, won 12, drew two and lost two.

At home their record is five wins and one draw — a shock 2-2 against Switzerland.

Away from home the Russians won seven, drew one and lost two.

Their impressive away wins included matches against Scotland, France, Bulgaria and Chile and a draw at Wembley.

Hungary played 10, won eight and lost two, to East Germany and Mexico.

The Hungarians played only three times at home — and won all — and seven times away, winning five.

During 1967 they never met in direct opposition.

However, they both played several countries which can give a line of comparison.

The Russians beat Mexico 2-0 in Moscow — the Hungarians first lost 1-2 to them, then defeated them 2-0, both times in Mexico City.

The Russians beat Austria 4-3 in Moscow, then lost to them 1-0 in Vienna, in European Championship ties; Hungary beat Austria 3-1 in Vienna.

Finally, the Russians defeated Chile 4-1 and the Hungarians beat them 5-4, both in Santiago.

These comparisons would indicate that perhaps Hungary deserved at least to share the lead with the Russians — if for no other reason than because both Hungarian defeats occurred in matches with nothing at stake, while the surprise Russian fiasco in Vienna swept them to the verge of elimination from the European Championships.

The two Germanies tied for sixth place — a come-down for West Germany, beaten by Yugoslavia and Rumania and sensationally held to a 0-0 draw by Albania, but a confirmation of the emerging East Germans, who were only beaten in two of their 14 games, by Hungary and Holland, both in the European Championship.

Yugoslavia owe their eighth place essentially to their surprise qualification for the European Championship quarterfinals.

Yugoslavia, however, had a positive international record for the first time in four years. They beat West Germany, Holland, Albania (twice) and lost to Hungary and West Germany.

Czechoslovakia, placed ninth, would have rated higher without a shock 1-2 loss to Eire in Prague in their last European Championship preliminary round match.

Otherwise the Czechs' results were good: four wins, a draw and two defeats.

Iberian neighbors, Spain and Portugal, share 10th place, both with mixed results in 1967.

Portugal had a disastrous European Championship campaign, winning a mere point out of four from Bulgaria, while Spain only made the quarterfinals as a result of Czechoslovakia's surprise home defeat to Eire.

Of the other countries among the 28 listed, France, winners of their elimination European Championship group, jumped from 18th in 1966 to 13th, just behind Scotland, whose only achievement was the win against England in London.

The Swiss, too, are on the mend. They held Russia to 2-2 in Moscow, thrashed Rumania 7-1 and held Italy to 2-2 in their first leg clash of the European Championship to tie

with France in 13th position.

Belgium, for the first time in nine years, are not among the first 15 European nations as they only beat Luxembourg twice, and Holland and were beaten twice by Poland.

Austria and Sweden are still in the dumps, and have to be content to share a depressing 21st ranking.

Eire, Wales, Northern Ireland, Iceland and Malta were not ranked because of insufficient international appearances in 1967.

The European ratings for 1966 were:

- 1 England
- 2 West Germany, Portugal
- 4 USSR
- 5 Hungary, Italy
- 7 East Germany
- 8 Rumania, Sweden
- 10 Bulgaria, Spain, Holland
- 13 Belgium, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia
- 16 Austria, Eire, France, Poland
- 20 Scotland, N. Ireland
- 22 Switzerland
- 23 Finland, Norway
- 25 Denmark, Wales.

Quota law may change

A special Council meeting on January 31 will consider revising the controversial quota ruling which prevails in the Sydney First Division competition.

The meeting has been called by the NSW Federation Management Committee to quell discontent among the ranks of some clubs unhappy with the present quota laws.

Last November's Annual General Meeting decided that the quota ruling would again be enforced in 1968.

Actually the meeting voted that the local content this season would increase from three to four players.

The present definition of an Australian is any player born here, or who migrated to Australia before the age of 18.

The Management Committee will suggest changes to the definition.

They will recommend that any player who settled here before he was 20, and not 18, and who is a naturalised citizen should qualify as an Australian in the quotas.

The liberalisation of the definition of an Australian player will make it easy for clubs to fill their quota as any British player will be eligible to qualify as an Australian after only 12 months' residence.

The Management Committee will recommend that the quota this year remains four Australians per team, but the new definition of the term "Australian" will render the quota law completely ineffectual.

We cannot agree with the Management Committee's recommendation to alter a ruling which proved successful last season in forcing clubs to unearth genuine local players.

There is no need to tamper with the quota law just to enable a few dissatisfied clubs to take the easy way out.

— Lou Gautier

ALBERT WINS EUROPE'S "GOLDEN BALL"

Hungarian star Florian Albert, due to visit Australia in July with his club Ferencvaros, was voted Europe's "Player of the Year."

The 26-year-old Albert, a Farkas (Vasas Budapest) 8, sportswriter by profession, Pirri (Real Madrid) 8, Strelzov (Torpedo Moscow) 6, Ribof Bobby Charlton (Manchester United), Johnstone (Celtic), Beckenbauer (Bayern Munchen) and Eusebio (Benfica).

Leading soccer writers of 24 European countries were asked to vote in the ballot, annually conducted by the Parisian "France Football", who also donate to the winner the "Golden Ball".

Past winners since 1956 have been Matthews, Di Stefano (twice), Kopa, Suarez, Sivori, Masopust, Yachin, Law, Eusebio and Charlton.

This is the first time a Hungarian player has been so "knighted" in this universally recognized French honors list.

Of the 24 journalists, eight placed Albert first on their list of five.

In one slot or another, he figured on the list of 18 voters.

All such lists, of course, are suspect as strong national feelings often sway sane judgment.

This year, however, there was little evidence of this.

Only three journalists named a player from their own country first: the Hungarian, the Northern Irish (Best) and the Russian (Strelzov).

Best eventually finished eighth on the list.

However, Strelzov's top vote by his compatriot was odd as he only received one more vote (a fifth) from the other 23 journalists.

Some British votes appear somewhat biased.

England's Brian Glanville put three Britons in his first five: Best 1, Johnstone 2 and Hurst 4.

Northern Ireland's Dermot Ashmore was slightly more blatant: his first four were British players — Best 1, Johnstone 2, Gemmell 3 and Charlton 4.

Best, of course, is another Northern Irishman while Johnstone and Gemmell play for Celtic, the famous "Irish" club of Glasgow.

Of the other 22 non-British journalists not one put more than two British players on his list; two (Bulgaria and Portugal) have not listed even one.

As usual, forwards dominated the scene.

In the first five four were forwards, in the first 19 only Beckenbauer and Gemmell were defenders; of the total of 34 vote-getters 29 are forwards.

The full result of the voting was:

Albert (Ferencvaros) 68 pts., B. Charlton (Manchester Utd.) 40, Johnstone (Celtic) 39, Beckenbauer (Bayern Munchen) 37, Eusebio (Benfica) 26, Gemmell (Celtic) 21, Muller (Bayern Munchen) 19, Best (Manchester Utd.) 18, Cislenco (Torpedo Moscow) 9, Mazzola (Inter Milan) 8,

Maltese VIP dropped in

What promised to be soccer's first dress rehearsal for the 1968 season was utterly marred by the shocking weather conditions at Wentworth Park last Sunday.

A crowd of more than 1,000 people braved the elements and turned out to see Pan Hellenic play Hakoah and Melita Eagles meet APIA.

The first match saw Pan Hellenic beat Hakoah 1-0.

Although keenly contested, both sides were much below their normal selves.

The main match of the afternoon, APIA v. Melita Eagles, staged as an exhibition match for the visiting Maltese Leader of the Opposition, Dom Mintoff, was a one-sided encounter which APIA won easily 6-0.

A feature of the game was the appearance for the first time of many new players in both sides.

APIA fielded inside-right Giulio Nicoli and centre-half Luigi Crino, two new imports from Fourth Division Italian clubs.

Melita Eagles' line-up included Dave Goldie and Stefan Nemet, together with some of their outstanding new junior players such as Gary Quesed and W. Wolowszcykow.

Dom Mintoff, accompanied by Jim Bayutti, defied the weather, and amid the roars of the Maltese crowd, went out on the field in drizzling rain to shake hands with the players.

After the game, Melita Eagles held a farewell dinner in honor of the Maltese leader at their clubrooms in Marrickville which was attended by more than 400 people.

— Charles Spiteri

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